

Testimony of

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**Cromwell Educator**

Before the

Education Committee

March 15, 2023

Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of House Bill 6884. This bill takes important steps toward addressing the educator shortage in Connecticut, showing educators that theirs is a respected profession, and ensuring that our classrooms and schools can provide the best possible education for our students.

I have been a teacher now for 23 years. I work in the Special Education Department. I am writing in support of House bill 6884. Without this bill, our special education department is unable to recruit new teachers and retain teachers. We need to tell the state that teachers deserve to be free of threats and harassment, deserve a duty free prep, and deserve to be respected for all the hard work they do working with future leaders of this state. Thank you for listening.

Jessica Grzegorek

